

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Chinese Communist Travel and Residence Controls in the East Coastal Area

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1. In late November 1952 the Ministry of Public Security established a number of special inspection stations along the Peiping-Mukden, Peiping-Hankow, Tientsin-P'uk'ou, Shanghai-Nanking, and Canton-Hankow Railways. These inspection stations were to dispatch agents disguised as merchants and travellers to ride on trains and assist local police and troops in their surveillance duties. Personnel of

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387

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25X1

-2-

the inspection stations were to watch for Nationalist and other foreign agents, guerrillas, and saboteurs, and were to investigate the activities of railway workers.

25X1A

2. In early November all persons travelling between Shanghai and Hong Kong were subjected to an extensive body and baggage check upon leaving the North Station in Shanghai. Each passenger was interrogated and required to furnish his name, native place, occupation, address, destination, and mission. The most extensive and time-consuming search was made at the border town of Shench'uan (N 22-32, E 114-08). The inspection was usually conducted at the Lohu Bridge. Communist political police conducted the examination, followed by custom officials and then interrogation inspectors, who also made the final baggage check. In some cases a body search was made. The final exit visa examination took place at the opposite end of the Lohu Bridge, where the official chop and date of exit were affixed. It took as long as two hours for a passenger to cross the border after the final exit permit stamp had been acquired. If everything was in order, the traveller was then permitted to enter British territory.
3. During November passengers returning to the mainland from Hong Kong and Macao were checked against a prepared list, with photographs, at Shench'uan. The list and photographs included government workers and persons with anti-Communist backgrounds and were not from the original file of travellers who held certificates. About forty men who resembled photographs of people on the list were detained at the guard house of the Border Defense Bureau for more interrogation.
4. In early November a passenger arriving in Canton had only to present his baggage for inspection. Once registered at a hotel, he was free from further investigation.
5. Train travel in November between Shanghai and Hong Kong was well organized, and each passenger had a seat. Civilian as well as military police patrolled the cars, and at night there were guards posted at the exits of every car. Guards were at every bridge and tunnel along the way. Occasionally, when trains passed over a bridge or through a tunnel, all passengers were required to draw their window blinds. The public address system broadcasted continually from 6 a.m. to midnight. All passengers were instructed to watch their fellow travellers and to be alert for bandits and spies.
6. In late August the Communists set up control points in the T'angnan (1048/0589) area, which is south of T'aihu between Wuhsing (N 30-52, E 120-06) Hsien, Chekiang Province, and P'ingwangchen (N 31-00, E 120-38), Kiangsu Province. Regular check points were at Hsuk'ou (N 31-14, E 120-28) and Tach'ienchen (N 30-56, E 120-10).
7. Boats of the T'aihu Water Security Bureau were patrolling the southern part of T'aihu day and night in late August. The T'aihu Water Security Bureau had been known as the Water Public Security Bureau of the T'aihu Administrative Office and was reorganized and renamed in early November. NI Ta-ch'eng (0242/1129/2052) was named chief of the new bureau and CHANG Cheng-tung (1728/2973/2639), his deputy.
8. In early September resident and travel controls in Fukien were as follows:
  - a. Resident registrations were controlled by the census sub-section of the Public Security Department; a residents' committee and its sub-sections maintained the records of the Public Security Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL/

-3-

25X1

- b. Every house was required to have one record book which was kept by the head of the house for the registration of residents there. These books were purchased from the census sub-section at a cost of JMP 2,000.
- c. When processing a resident's registration record, the Public Security Department classified each person as either reliable, uncertain, or suspect. A reliable tenant usually had one monthly police check. Those regarded with suspicion had repeated checks and detailed interrogations on background and personal history. Anyone whose background was especially suspicious would be arrested for formal questioning.
- d. When applying for resident registration at a new address, the applicant was required to present his previous resident certificate and have the guarantee of two shop-owners in the area. Only after there had been an investigation and official approval would the applicant be made a legal resident. Unmarried minors could not make their own applications but had to apply to the police through the head of the house in which they were going to reside. The Public Security Department usually ran three or four checks on every new application for residence registration.
- e. All persons were required to report on the activities of new tenants. The Public Security Department organized local youth into "Little Devil" squads which reported on all new arrivals. A disparaging report on any person usually resulted in detailed investigations and repeated interrogations by the police.
- f. Any tenant who wished to move to a new address within the jurisdiction of the same public security office was required to report verbally to the authorities and submit his residence certificate for re-registration. If he wished to move to another area falling under the jurisdiction of another public security office, he had to secure a removal permit at the public security office in his area, reporting in an application the reason for moving, the time of moving, and the new address. Within three days after arriving at the new address, he had to report to the local census sub-section for a new registration certificate.
- g. Anyone who was visited by a friend or relative for an overnight stay had to report this to the tenants' sub-section. A visitor who planned to stay for a month or more had to acquire a removal permit from his own zone and surrender it to the authorities of the zone in which he was staying, after which he had to apply for a new residence permit.
- h. Anyone living in Fukien who desired to make a business or pleasure trip outside his own town for a period of three or more days was required to make a verbal report to the census sub-section or the residents' sub-section. If the trip was to take more than a month, the traveller was required to submit a report giving the reason for the trip, the places to be visited, and the duration of the trip. Certain classes of people were not allowed to travel unless they had special permits or documents from the Public Security Department.
- i. A person who wanted to go to Hong Kong or Macao on business was required to submit a written report to the local police sub-station stating his original address, his occupation, the purpose of the trip, and the intended length of stay. If the applicant happened to be the head of a house or the owner of

CONFIDENTIAL/

25X1

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

-4-

a shop or factory, he had to secure the guarantee of two other shop or firm owners. The ordinary individual needed the guarantee of at least two other people for a trip to Macao or Hong Kong. If approval was granted, the person had to return home within the allotted time and report immediately to the police sub-station. If he failed to do so, the guarantors were held responsible. It was extremely difficult to obtain a one-way trip to Macao or Hong Kong with the stated intent of not returning to the mainland, and it was practically impossible for a shop-owner or factory owner to get permission to leave the mainland permanently.

- j. Overseas Chinese returning to the mainland could make application for a temporary resident's permit, but only after three months of residence in any area were they allowed to apply for a legal resident's permit.<sup>1</sup> It was possible to expedite the processing of a legal permit by bribing a lower official, but it was almost impossible to bribe an official to supply legal documents illegally.
  - k. Identity books were not issued in Foochow. This differed from the situation in Canton, where every person was required to carry an identity book issued by the local public security authorities.
9. Prior to 10 November 1952 the Kwangtung Census Control Bureau placed hsien and city census control under census offices integrated with hsien and city public security offices.<sup>2</sup> Each census office consisted of an investigation sub-section, which handled the investigation and registration of births, deaths, and resident movements; a detective sub-section, which controlled the activities and thinking of inhabitants of the area; and a review sub-section, which was in charge of reviewing all affairs in connection with the census. The census in the suburban area was taken care of by the ch'u governments or by the farmers associations. The Census Control Bureau also established the following rules for census registration and identification in Kwangtung:
- a. Each house had to have a census registration book which was kept at that house.
  - b. The census registration book had to have the name, age, native place, profession, education, dependents, and date of arrival and departure of each person who lived in the house.
  - c. Any person who lived at a house other than the one in which he was registered had to apply to have his name added to the census. He had to give a reason for making the application, turn in three photographs, and fill out an application form in full. Only after the approval of the public security office could the person be listed in the census book of the house to which he had moved.
  - d. After December 1949 city residents were required to have resident cards issued by the public security bureau. These resident cards included the name, age, profession, address, and photograph of the card holder.
  - e. In addition to resident cards, workmen had labor union cards, and merchants had guild or chamber of commerce cards.
  - f. People living in the suburban areas did not need resident cards, but farmers held farmers association membership cards and workers had labor union cards.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

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25X1A

-5-

25X1

10. In early October 1952 the Kwangtung Farmers Association directed all the social and political activities of the peasants, supervised the elimination of the landlord class, estimated and evaluated the agricultural output, and expedited the payment of taxes by the peasants. The authority of the association was restricted to those matters which were directly related to agricultural problems. The maintenance of public law and order in Kwangtung was the responsibility of the regular police bureaus.

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